



2014 Christmas Tree Cutting Caribou-Targhee National Forest



We hope the experience of cutting a Christmas tree will provide a special memory for you and your family. The Forest has offered Christmas trees for many years. Since 2008, the Forest Christmas Tree program has been part of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act. Under this act the Forest retains a portion of Christmas Tree Permit receipts to: solicit additional vendors to make obtaining a permit more convenient, increase staffing during peak use periods to better assist customers with information and directions, increase compliance patrols and checks to ensure fairness for permit purchasers, security, and safety to the public and other functions and support.

In order for the Forest Service to continue to provide this opportunity and help you have a safe enjoyable experience we ask that you follow these guidelines.

Before Venturing Out

- A permit is required to cut and remove one Christmas tree. A permit is \$10.00 for trees 12 feet or shorter and \$15.00 for trees 12 feet to 20 feet tall. There is a limit of one permit per family.
- Christmas tree permits are not refundable for any reason.
- Permits can be purchased at the places listed on Caribou-Targhee Christmas Tree vendor list provided on the website.
- Make sure you cut your tree on public lands. Some Ranger Districts have designated areas or areas with restrictions. Consult the office of the Ranger District you wish to cut your Christmas tree from for additional information.
- After you cut your tree, attach your permit to it for the trip home.

When Cutting Your Tree

- Help us manage trees for future generations. Cut conifer Christmas trees within aspen stands to allow the aspen trees to expand or from a clump of conifer trees to allow the remaining trees more space to grow. Select a tree with defects and leave the healthiest trees to grow.
- Do not cut trees in or around campgrounds, organized sites, summer home areas, administrative sites (guard stations), ski areas, wilderness, wilderness study areas, private, state or BLM lands.
- Cut your tree within 8 inches of the ground. All branches must be cut free of the stump or any portion of the tree trunk left. Do not cut off the top of a larger tree and take only the top.
- Please avoid riparian areas, which are sensitive and difficult to regenerate.
- Please follow the Caribou-Targhee Travel Plan map and signs as you locate and cut your tree.

For Your Safety

- Ensure that you, your family and your vehicle are properly equipped for winter travel before leaving.
- Always let someone know where you plan to cut your tree and when you plan to return.
- Do not park your vehicle where it will block traffic or otherwise cause a traffic hazard.
- Bring additional warm clothing, a container of hot liquid, water, a lunch or snacks – your trip may take longer than expected. Pack it in – Pack it out. Please keep your National Forests clean.
- Carry a flashlight, tire chains, first aid kit, hatchet, ax or hand saw, good warm gloves, warm boots, and a rope to tie your tree down.

When transporting your tree make sure your permit is attached to the tree and is visible. Tie the tree securely to your vehicle. You may want to wrap it in a tarp or old blanket to protect the branches. Also, if you transport your tree on the top or bed of your vehicle, remember to have the trunk of the tree facing forward.

Caring For Your Christmas Tree

- Place your tree in a location away from heat registers, fireplaces, and stoves.
- Use only inspected electrical cords, an electrical short can cause a dry tree to burn in seconds!
- Water, Water, Water ---Always keep your fresh tree in a stand that holds lots of water. Use a mixture of one part sugar to sixteen parts water. Don't forget to check the water level daily and refill the reservoir with the water and sugar solution.

*From everyone at the
Caribou-Targhee National
Forest, we wish you and your
family a
MERRY CHRISTMAS!*

